

# **IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 25th February 2018**

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## **Last Year Prize Winners**

Larry EI9CN has requested that any members who won prizes last year and who have not already returned them, please could they do so to his QTHR as a matter of urgency, as he requires some time to have them engraved and/or repaired if necessary.

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## **IRTS Annual General Meeting**

This year on the 14th and 15th April, the IRTS AGM will be taking place in the Galway Bay Hotel overlooking the sea front and popular holiday resort. Lectures will be held on Saturday afternoon from 2pm. These will include the 7Q7EI Dxpedition (by Pat O'Connor, EI9HX and Enda Broderick EI2II), An Introduction to Digital Radio (by Steve Wright, EI5DD, and John Ronan, EI7IG), Having Fun in Space by Graham Shirville G3VZV and Weak Signal mode - FT8 (by Keith Wallace, EI5KO).

The Annual dinner will take place in the evening at 7:30pm. Tickets for the Dinner may be purchased from the IRTS website - see the IRTS AGM tab.

On Sunday the Rally will take place in a spacious conference hall located underneath the Hotel. Doors will open at 10:00 am to facilitate a longer time for the Rally. Tables and any enquiries should be addressed to: Steve Wright, EI5DD, email "wrights1 /at/ eircom /dot/ net" or phoned to 087 2451218.

Meals will be available on Sunday in the Carvery for all the weary travellers prior to the AGM.

Those seeking a room at the hotel should mention the IRTS when booking to get the special rate for the weekend. There are numerous B&Bs in the area of Salthill which may be found on the B&B finders on the internet.

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## **South Eastern Amateur Radio Group**

The 2018 AGM of the group will take place on Monday the 26th of February 2018 in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford at 8.00 p.m. sharp. As this is the most important meeting of the year for the group all members are please

asked to attend. New members or anyone interested in the hobby are very welcome to come along also.

For anyone that wishes to find out more about the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and their activities you can come along to any of their meetings. You can check out their website [www.searg.ie](http://www.searg.ie) and you can also join them on Facebook and follow them on Twitter.

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### **North Cork Radio Group**

The North Cork Radio Group is proud to announce that it will activate Blackrock Castle Observatory on Monday 19th March 2018. They will be activating the castle under the World Castles Award. Open for the public from 10AM onwards.

NCRG will be operating HF mainly, but will have showcase equipment, go boxes and other gadgets to show to the public. The NCRG hope to see many of you there on the day, or, of course, on the air.

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### **South Dublin Radio Club**

South Dublin Radio Club AGM will now take place at 8pm on Tuesday 20th of March 2018 at Ballyroan community centre on the Marian road in Rathfarnham. All members are asked to attend.

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### **Limerick Radio Club**

The LRC Rally is scheduled for Sunday the 25th March in the Radisson Blu Hotel Limerick. Anyone wishing to book tables please contact Michael Kingston EI2IX e-mail "michaelkingston /at/ eircom /dot/ net" or to Harry O'Loughlin e-mail "oloughlin /dot/ harry /at/ gmail /dot/ com"

As for previous years the LRC website will advertise for sale items, so please send your list to Michael's e -mail address.

Brendan EI0CZ, Harry EI2KL and Tom EI5CA continue with Morse Practice, on the Limerick 2 metre repeater after the IRTS News at 20:00 on Mondays, and at 20:00 on Tuesdays.

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## **Kerry Amateur Radio**

The Kerry Amateur Radio held their AGM on Saturday 27th January in Castleisland, Co. Kerry.

A lively meeting was held with a great attendance. Events from the past year were profiled leading to a very good and productive discussion for events in 2018 and 2019. A calendar of these events has been sent to all members.

Officers were elected for 2018 as follows: -

Chairman / QSL manager: Declan Horan EI9FVB Treasurer: Billa O'Connor EI7CQB  
Secretary / PRO: John Costello EI9ESB

It was decided to invite expressions of interest for classes or tutorials for the Amateur Radio Licence examination and to that end a short piece was posted on the Kerry Amateur Radio Group YouTube channel that was then linked to social media. Anyone in the region interested in registering their interest is encouraged to email the club via "eilkarg /at/ gmail /dot/ com".

The next Kerry Amateur Radio Group monthly meeting is on 24th February at 11am in the Sports Hall in Killarney. All are welcome to attend, new members are encouraged.

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## **Wexford Wireless Club**

On Wednesday 7th of March, John Tubbritt EI3HQB will give a show and tell about a tilt over telescopic mast that he has recently built over the last few months, as amateur radio operator's a mast like this is a great addition to a station to be able to perform maintenance tasks with ease and to be able to let down antenna's with ease if adverse weather is on its way! The talk will start at 2030 sharp, all club members or anyone interested is asked to attend.

Wexford Wireless Club hold weekly meetings every Wednesday evening from 2000 to 2200 in Gorey Scout Group Hall just off Esmonde Street in Gorey, Co. Wexford, everyone is as always very welcome

For more information about the club please contact the club secretary Michael Fitzgerald EI9GGB at QTHR or by dropping an email to "wexfordwirelessclub /at/ live /dot/ ie"

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## **Mid-Ulster Amateur Radio Club**

A little reminder. Over the next number of months Mid-Ulster Amateur Radio Club has a number of speakers, everyone is welcome!

11th March John McCullough G4 BWM on DMR. 8th April Philip Hosey M0 MSO region 8 manager. 20th May Paul Lewis M1AIB WAB & BYLARA talk. 10th June talk on Digital Selective Calling.

Everyone is welcome members and visitors.

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## **DX News**

Four French operators will be active from Martinique until 2nd March. They will use the unusual callsign TO972A on all bands, CW, SSB and Digital. QSL to F5RXL.

There was a mention in last week's 'News' of Jim WB2REM and Mark WY1G being QRV from Nicaragua from 26th February – 6th March. Since then, their callsign has been changed to H72DX. QSL via Club Log OQRS.

Over 80,000 QSOs were logged by the recent DXpedition by Z60A in the new DXCC entity of Kosovo. Local operator Z61DX is now a regular on the bands and another station to look for is Z68M who will be in Pristina until 6th March. The operator of Z68M is Mome Z32ZM and QSLs should go via Club Log OQRS.

Mark XE1B will be QRV from Socorro Island in the Revilla Gigedo Archipelago from 1st – 15th March. He will use the callsign 4B4B and be active on 160 – 6m SSB only. This is quite a rare DXCC entity and the first activation since 2011. QSL via Club Log OQRS.

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Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news may be telephoned to the radio news editor, Mark EI6HPB on 086 355 2370.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

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